
A New Combination in *Pottia* (Musci)

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ABSTRACT. *Pottia fosbergii*, of the southwestern United States and Mexico, is recognized at the varietal level: *P. starkeana* var. *fosbergii*.

While working on the genus *Pottia* for the forthcoming *Moss Flora of Mexico* (Sharp et al., in press), I found that plants referable to *Pottia fosbergii* E. B. Bartram usually occur in mixture with *P. starkeana* (Hedwig) C. Müller subsp. *starkeana* and may actually be hybrids between *P. starkeana* and another species. The operculum is usually undifferentiated and the peristome absent, but a Californian specimen that is clearly *P. fosbergii* (*Ikenberry* 369, CANM), called to my attention by Terry McIntosh, has a weakly differentiated operculum and rudimentary peristome teeth. The gametophytes of both the above taxa are essentially identical. *Pottia fos-*

bergii should henceforth be recognized at the varietal level, as it differs from *P. starkeana* only in the operculum weakly differentiated or not differentiated, and the peristome absent or rudimentary.

Pottia starkeana* var. *fosbergii (E. B. Bartram) R. H. Zander, comb. et stat. nov. Basionym: *Pottia fosbergii* E. B. Bartram, *Bryologist* 33: 18. 1930. TYPE: U.S.A. California: Los Angeles Co., Claremont, *Fosberg D24* (holotype, FH).

Literature Cited

Sharp, A., H. Crum & P. Eckel (editors). *Moss Flora of Mexico*. New York Bot. Gard., Bronx, New York (in press).